81-08-Juvenile Detention Services

Fund/Agency: 001/81	Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court					
Personnel Services	\$5,320,776					
Operating Expenses	\$609,730					
Recovered Costs	\$O	CAPS Percentage of Agency Total				
Capital Equipment	\$30,000					
Total CAPS Cost:	\$5,960,506					
Federal Revenue	\$111,200	34.9%				
State Revenue	\$6,371,212					
User Fee Revenue	\$O					
Other Revenue	\$115,305	65.1%				
Total Revenue:	\$6,597,717					
Net CAPS Cost:	(\$637,211)					
		■Juvenile Detention Services □ All Other Agency CAPS				
Positions/SYE involved in the delivery of this CAPS	130/130					

▶ CAPS Summary

The Court's Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) is a 121 bed co-educational secure residential facility which holds criminal juvenile offenders who have been ordered to be detained because they pose a serious threat to themselves, and/or other members of the public. This program provides counseling, educational, recreational and emergency crisis services. Two units have been set aside for post-dispositional sentencing and treatment programs. Prior to the expansion to 121 beds, the facility had been operating at over 100 percent utilization for over a decade.

One of the key concerns of the JDC staff is the large number of detained youth who exhibit mental health problems. During the five days (February 22, April 1, June 3, July 15, and August 26, 2000) JDC staff profiled youth in custody and found that between 59 percent and 65 percent of the youth in the facility had identified mental health concerns. On these days, 33 percent youth who had a diagnosed mental disorder. Fifteen percent of the youths had experienced, or were experiencing depression; six percent had been diagnosed with bipolar disorder. Eight percent of the youths had attempted suicide in the past. Twenty percent had a

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history of suicidal ideation. Ten percent had a history of prior outpatient mental health treatment while 11 percent the youth had a history of prior psychiatric hospitalization. Eleven percent of the youths were currently receiving one or more psychotropic drugs.

At the present time, mental health treatment capacity does not meet demand. Facility staff do not have the training or the time to provide treatment services. To the extent that a youth's illegal behavior is related to his or her mental health status, languishing in placement without treatment will not bring about positive change. Thirty percent of these youth were detained for two months or more. This lack of mental health treatment services is not consistent with the Agency's mission to provide efficient and effective court service programs that promote positive behavioral change for youth involved with the Court. The FY 2002 budget did provide funds for 2 additional forensic psychologists to be assigned to JDC and the Less Secure Shelter (LSS). This additional staff will increase the assessment and treatment capacity in these facilities.

Method of Service Provision

The Juvenile Detention Center is staffed by Fairfax County personnel. The facility operates 24 hours per day, 365 days per year and is designed both architecturally and programmatically to reduce stress for the residents while providing control and safety. Security is maintained through physical surveillance and personal contact between staff and detainees, rather than through electronic equipment; the extensive use of internal windows facilitates surveillance without being obtrusive. Each living unit is organized as a set of 11 bedrooms opening onto a common dayroom. The building provides specialized single-purpose space for schooling, arts and crafts, physical exercise, dining, intake, reception, and administration. Special attention is paid to screening medical and mental health needs of youth ordered into the facility.

Performance/Workload Related Data

Title	FY 1998 Actual	FY 1999 Actual	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Estimate	FY 2002 Estimate
Child Care Days Provided	31,862	36,894	37,065	38,132	41,957
Facility Utilization Rate	159%	103%	102%	95%	95%
Cost Per Child Care Day	\$126	\$95	\$95	\$121	\$121

Mandate Information

This CAPS is Federally or State mandated. The percentage of this CAPS' resources utilized to satisfy the mandate is 76 - 100%. The specific Federal or State code and a brief description of the code follows:

Code of Virginia Section 16.1 - 235